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CORONA - [redacted] Role

24 October 1964

Memo to DCI from ADWheelon

sub: Ltr to Secty Vance

re CIA [redacted] Role in COR

Two letters sent to DCI for his choice.

In response to Vance ltr to DCI of 15 Oct 1964.

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Vance's letter places technical direction with Gen Greer

and establishes [redacted] as the COR Proj Director and

states that tech directions on approved changes wld be

prepared by [redacted] and forwarded to the contractors. Thus

[redacted] would be charged with responsibility for the

payload but wld not control the wherewithal to execute

necessary decisions, i.e. technical direction.

The 2 draft letters attached: "A" amd "B".

(CHECK: to see if one was signed and dispatched to Vance)

NRO review(s) completed.

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*Not Sent - Revised June*

21 October 1964

Honorable Cyrus R. Vance  
Deputy Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Cy:

I am pleased that your memorandum of 15 October concerning the CORONA program is in general accord with my proposal to consolidate the entire CORONA program under General Greer's over-all management. I do find several comments in your memorandum which manifest a possible misunderstanding of exactly what [redacted] role, and hence the Agency's role, should be in the CORONA program. [For clarity's sake I will relate my concept.]

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As I suggested in my 6 October memorandum, and as was illustrated in its attachment, [redacted] would be responsible for the technical direction of the payload contractors which include Itek, GE, and Lockheed. Also under [redacted] would be the [redacted] for the assembly, integration, and checkout of the payload system. Although the technical functions conducted by the Agency [redacted] would be an extension of [redacted] direction, I see no reason, at this time, to disturb the mechanism for operational support which that facility provides to the NRO Satellite Operations Center during CORONA on-orbit operations.

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[redacted] direction over the Lockheed Systems Integration contract will require careful coordination with the [redacted] hence my desire that [redacted] recognize [redacted] role in the payload area. [redacted] will look to Lockheed to perform the necessary payload integration function and to [redacted] for that system engineering coordination necessary for the interface of the complete system. Specifically, [redacted] should be responsive to [redacted] for whatever assistance that he may require.

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Regarding the CORONA Advisory Committee, the fact that CORONA is an operational program whose primary

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purpose is the acquisition photographic intelligence, it would seem paramount that the entire system function in behalf of the primary mission and hence that

25X1 [redacted] as technical director of the payload, be established as the governing element or Chairman. Other membership could be drawn, as you suggested, from the NRO Staff, NPIC, etc.

Technical directions on approved changes would be prepared by those technical directors responsible for their respective areas and forwarded through appropriate contract officers to the contractor. In other words, General Greer, in his management of the CORONA program would look to two deputies, so to speak--one, [redacted] 25X1 responsible for the payload; the other, responsible for the booster, launch and tracking operations, and recovery efforts.

I trust that this elaboration clarifies my previous memorandum. I believe we are moving in the proper direction and have asked General Carter, upon returning from his Far East trip, to introduce [redacted] to 25X1 General Greer.

Sincerely,

John A. McCone  
Director

- 2 -

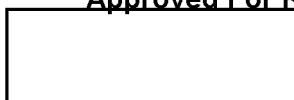
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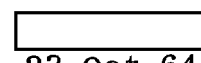
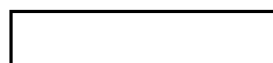
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to DCI

23 Oct 64

sub: Analysis of [redacted] Contr

McMillan attempt to insert [redacted] into satellite contracting.

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McMillan on 20 Oct [redacted] sent copies of [redacted]

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[redacted] contracts and explained what systems

engineering and technical direction meant in the [redacted]

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system.

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DD/S&T staff reviewed but general analysis of the [redacted] relationship was that the AF employs

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[redacted] for technical assistance in managing the

[redacted] program much as the Agency employs a [redacted]

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contractor for similar assistance. Phraseology notwithstanding, the AF controls and directs [redacted] and CIA

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controls and directs [redacted]. No technical directive

may be issued in the [redacted] program without AF approval,

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just as no technical directive may be issued in [redacted]

without Agency approval. DD/S&T found little difference

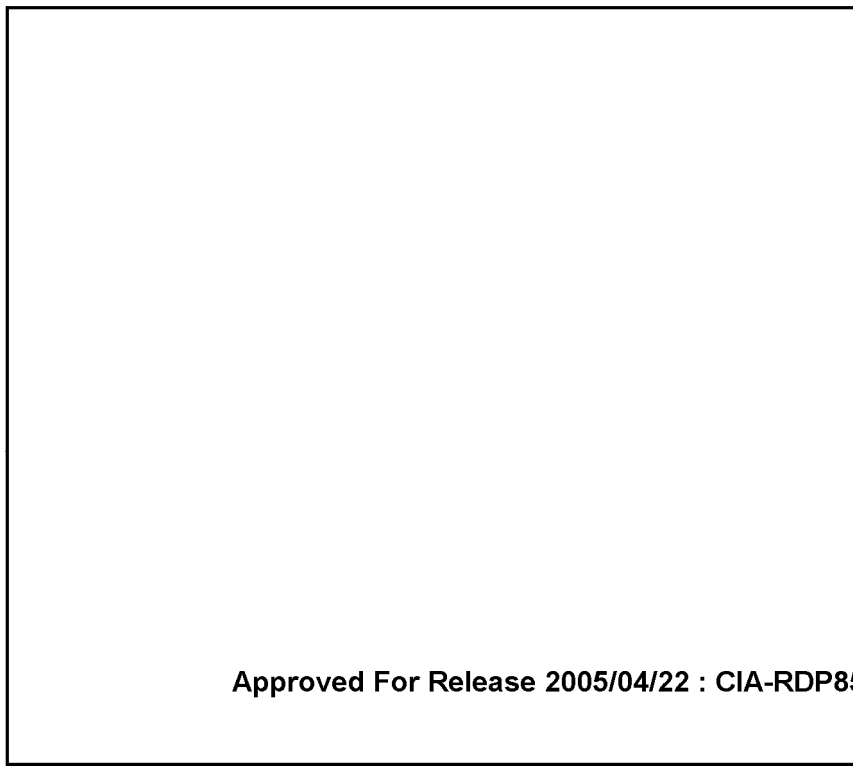
in the philosophy of management control and technical

direction of the two programs.

(DCI read and agreed to above) on 23 Oct.

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23 OCT 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Officer, DD/S&T  
THROUGH : Chief, Plans and Programs Staff, DD/S&T  
SUBJECT : SPS Funding Requirements  
for FY-1965 and FY-1966

1. The attached series of documents represent SPS budget estimates for funding requirements in FY-1965 and FY-1966.

2. We recognize that this amount might be startling at first blush, but we must remember that SPS grew out of a dire national requirement and has responded to the urgings of both the DD/S&T and the DCI. Although SPS is yet in the formative stage, we have amassed sufficient technical competence to effectively sustain and pursue the Agency's role in National Reconnaissance Programs.

4. It should be observed that there is an interface necessary between the SPS type studies and those of the Office of Research and Development. We look at our role conducting those developmental or experimental efforts which aid directly in on-going or contemplated satellite programs. The scope is limited and we do not test the "state of the art" as does ORD. We have not budgeted

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for the continuance of successful efforts which any of the studies might produce. We expect that should our efforts materialize substantively, we would then look to the Agency for additional funds or to the National Reconnaissance Program, depending upon the circumstances.

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JACKSON D. MAXEY  
Chief, Special Projects Staff

Attachments as stated

Distribution:

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DD/E&T/SPS:JNMcMahon: (23 Oct 64)

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Copy 3 of 6

14 OCT 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
THROUGH : Executive Officer, DE/DSST  
SUBJECT : Proposed Table of Organization for  
the Special Projects Staff

1. Attached are the proposed [redacted] table of organization for the Special Projects Staff and a transmittal memorandum to the DCI requesting his approval.

2. Also attached, for your information only, is a composite T/O chart which indicates how the DAS and OSI slots will be combined with the [redacted] and the two industrial contract personnel to form the Special Projects Staff.

(S) [redacted]  
JAMESON D. HANNEY  
Chief, Special Projects Staff

Attachments: As stated

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